

Remarks

Claims 2, 4-12, 14 and 19-24 were pending.

Claim 5 is cancelled.

Claims 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, and 21-23 are amended.

Claim 11 is original.

Claims 8, 10, 12, 14, 19, 20 and 24 are as previously presented.

Claim 25 is new.

The application now contains claims 2, 4, 6-12, 14 and 19-25.

Claims 2 and 22 are amended for clarity in the last 6 lines of the definition of R¹ and R² by deleting the terms "Ar³ or a group -CR³R⁴-(CH₂)₉-Ar³" replacing them with "aryl, heteroaryl, a group -CR³R⁴-(CH₂)₉- aryl or a group -CR³R⁴-(CH₂)₉- heteroaryl", and deleting the line "Ar³ stands for aryl or heteroaryl". Support is inherent in the claim as the amendments simple substitute the recited meaning of AR³ for the variable. Claim 2 is further amended for clarity by replacing the variable R⁶ with R^{6'} in the formula for Ar¹ and Ar². Literal support for the substitution is not present, however the meaning of the claim is unaltered and the amendment eliminates confusion with the appearance of an alternate variable R⁶ that appears in other claims, e.g., claim 4.

Claim 4 is amended to be an independent claim by deleting reference to claim 2 and incorporating the preamble and matter regarding formula I from claim 2 as instantly amended. Claim 4 is also amended for clarity by specifying that the polymer comprises a repeating unit of formula and either one or more repeating unit(s) Ar³, one or more repeating units -T-, or one or more repeating unit(s) Ar³ and one or more repeating units -T-. Applicants respectfully point out that this is the meaning of the and/or language of line 2 in the previous version of the claim. Support is found in the specification in lines 13-14 of page 11, the last three lines of page 23 and lines 9-11 of page 24, and in the claim construction of claims 7 and 20, both of which appeared earlier and recite a combination of formula I and Ar³ (claim 7) and formula I and -T- (claim 20).

Claim 6 is amended to be consistent with claim 2 by deleting all but five of the structures listed for variables Ar¹ and Ar² and the material related to R³² and by replacing variable R⁶ with R^{6'} as above.

Claim 7 is amended to be dependent from claim 4 and to be consistent with instantly amended claim 4 by deleting all but five of the structures listed for variables Ar¹ and Ar² and by replacing variable R⁶ with R^{6'} as above.

Claim 9 is amended to be dependent from claim 4. Claim 21 is amended to be dependent from claim 9; the formula of claim 21 is the formula of claim 9 wherein a=1, b=0, d=0, e=1 and c=f.

Claim 23 is amended to be dependent from claim 2, to delete reference to AR³ and insert the limitations wherein R¹ or R² as aryl is phenyl or 1- or 2-naphthyl which phenyl or 1- or 2-naphthyl can be substituted one to three times with C₁-C₈alkyl and/or C₁-C₈alkoxy, and R¹ or R² as a group -CR³R⁴-(CH₂)_g- aryl is group -CR³R⁴-(CH₂)_g- phenyl or a group-CR³R⁴-(CH₂)_g- 1- or 2-naphthyl which phenyl or 1- or 2-naphthyl can be substituted one to three times with C₁-C₈alkyl and/or C₁-C₈alkoxy. Support is found in instantly amended claim 2.

Claim 25 is supported by now cancelled claim 5.

No new matter is added.

Rejections

Applicants thank the Examiner for his helpful phone comments clarifying the rejections to, for example, claim 4. Applicants have not followed the suggestion to have all the claims resemble the formula of claim 9, however, Applicants believe that making claim 4 an independent claim which specifies a repeating unit of formula and at least a repeating unit of Ar³ or -T- clarifies some of the issues identified in the present Action.

Claims 4-7, 9, 20, 21 and 23 are rejected under 35 USC 112 second paragraph as indefinite. Much of the problem is due to the conflicting definitions of R⁶ and Ar³ in, for example, claim 1 and claim 4. Applicants respectfully submit that the instant amendments replacing R⁶ with R^{6'} as the variable in formula of Ar¹ and of Ar² in claims 2 and 4, and claims dependent thereon, and removing recitation of the variable Ar³ from the definition of R¹ and R² largely overcome the confusion created by the definitions of these variables.

The Action also states that claim 4 is not properly dependent on claim 2 because claim 2 does not allow for the additional groups Ar³ and -T-. To overcome any confusion regarding the relationship between claims 2 and 4, Applicants have made claim 4 an independent claim to a polymer containing both a repeating unit of formula I and Ar³, -T- or both Ar³ and -T-.

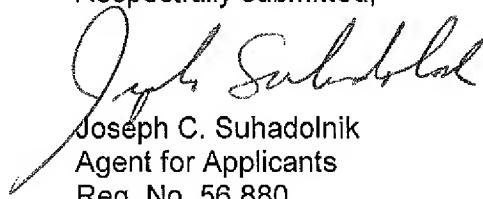
Claims 6 and 7 were also rejected because the scope of Ar¹ and of Ar² was broader than that of claims 2 and 4. The instant amendments have corrected this fault. Applicants also note that claim 7 and claim 9 are now dependent on claim 4 as now independent claim 4 specifies that the polymer contains Ar³ and/or -T- along with a repeating unit of formula I.

In rejecting claim 20, the Action states that claim 4 "requires an Ar³ unit". Applicants respectfully submit that the instant amendments clarify that claim 4 requires that Ar³ or -T- or both Ar³ and -T- be present and that Ar³ is not specifically required.

Applicants respectfully submit that the instant amendments address and overcome all rejections of claims 4-7, 9, 20, 21 and 23 under 35 USC 112 second paragraph and kindly ask that the rejections be withdrawn and that claims 4, 6, 7, 9, 20, 21 and 23 be found allowable. Applicants note that claims 2, 8, 10-12, 14, 19, 22 and 24 have already been found allowable.

Applicants respectfully submit that all rejections are addressed and are overcome and kindly ask that they be withdrawn and claims 2, 4, 6-12, 14 and 19-25 be found allowable. In the event that minor amendments will further prosecution, Applicants request that the examiner contact the undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,



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